

For Immediate Release November 9, 2017 Office: (217) 782-5793 Mobile: (217) 993-1000

Marianne.Manko@Illinois.gov

Victoria Crawford Office: (217) 557-5819 Victoria.Crawford@Illinois.gov

## ICC Opens Public Comment Period on Energy Resource Adequacy Concerns

Stakeholders' input encouraged; workshops upcoming

Chicago, IL...The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is gathering public input regarding electric resource adequacy concerns in the wake of several recent and pending Illinois power plant retirements.

A white paper detailing dynamics of the resource concerns throughout what is known as Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) Zone 4 is available on the ICC's website <a href="here">here</a>. Additionally, public comment and workshop information is available through that link. MISO Zone 4, also known as the Ameren Illinois service area, encompasses much of the state of Illinois, excluding the northern portion.

Among the concerns are recent actions taken by Dynegy, the largest producer of electricity in Zone 4, which has complete or partial ownership of seven plants in the zone. Dynegy has stated that a third of its Illinois coal-fired plants are at high risk of retirement and another third are in serious consideration for retirement. This follows two Dynegy plant closings in 2016 and the closing of a portion of another plant in 2015.

"Ensuring that all Illinois consumers have adequate long-term electricity resources at reasonable prices is critical to the State of Illinois," ICC Chairman Brien J. Sheahan said. "This collaborative exchange of ideas will help address concerns that long-term resources will not be adequate and will explore plans for the future. We strongly encourage stakeholders and interested consumers to offer their comments and participate in our upcoming workshops."

Pre-workshop, written public comments will be accepted through Nov. 30 and may be sent to the ICC's Director of Policy, Torsten Clausen, at <u>torsten.clausen@illinois.gov</u>. A workshop will take place Dec. 7

at the ICC offices, 527 E. Capitol Ave., Springfield, and 160 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, with video connection between the two locations.

Written post-workshop comments will be accepted through Dec. 21, including any suggestions for conducting the second workshop, which is scheduled for Jan. 16, 2018, at a location to be determined.

The final written comment deadline will be Jan. 30, 2018. A summary report will be provided to Gov. Bruce Rauner and the Illinois General Assembly, as well as posted on the ICC website, by Feb. 26, 2018.

###

## **About the Illinois Commerce Commission**

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Utility Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses and repossession agencies. The Commission's Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices and bureaus, click <a href="here">here</a>. If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint <a href="here">here</a>. For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

Follow the Illinois Commerce Commission on Twitter @ILCommerceComm